

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Attorney Docket No. 122835.8

In re application of: Brima, et al.

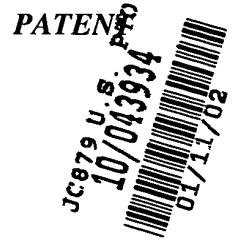
Serial No.: N/A

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: N/A

Examiner: N/A

For: Manufacturing Inorganic Polymer Hybrids



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R.

§§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ( ) Items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language.

( ) For each of the following items, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Barbara A. Bryer  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

- ( ) For each of the following items, a concise explanation of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application:
- 
- ( ) For each of the following items, a corresponding U.S. or other English-language patent is enclosed. Please consider the U.S. or other English-language patent in accordance with the procedure set forth in MPEP § 609: \_\_\_\_\_
2. ( ) Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark office in Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, of which the present application is a:
- ( ) Continuation application,
  - ( ) Divisional application, or
  - ( ) Continuation-In-Part application
- filed under 37 CFR § 1.53(b) or (d).
3. (x) Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b).
- This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed
- (x) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
  - ( ) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or
  - ( ) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits,
- and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.
4. ( ) Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c).
- This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first mailing date of either
- ( ) A final action under § 1.113; or
  - ( ) A notice of allowance under § 1.311,

- ( ) A fee is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the fee is paid below; or
- ( ) This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

5. ( ) Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either

- ( ) A final action under § 1.113; or
- ( ) A notice of allowance under § 1.311,

whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by

- a. One of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), which is set forth below;
- b. The attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
- c. The petition fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1), which is paid below.

6. Certification Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e).

- ( ) The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ( ) The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

7. Fee Payment Being Made.

- ( ) Enclosed
- ( ) \$240.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR § 1.97(c).

- ( ) A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the fee payment is enclosed.
- (X) Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0436. A duplicate copy of this communication is attached.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this Information Disclosure Statement or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0436. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew P. McWilliams  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> (REV. 2-32)  <b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b> 122835.7	<b>SERIAL NO.</b> N/A
		<b>APPLICANT</b> Brima, et al.	
		<b>FILING DATE</b> N/A	<b>GROUP</b> N/A

JTE79 U.S. PTO  
 10/043934  
 01/11/02

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,973,053	10/26/99	Usuki et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Country	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	TRANSLATION YES NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Oya, et al., Factors controlling mechanical properties of clay mineral/polypropylene nanocomposites, 35 Journal of Materials Science 1045-1050 (2000).
		Reichert, et al., Poly(propylene)/organoclay nanocomposite formation: Influence of compatibilizer functionality and organoclay modification, 275 Macromol. Mater. Eng. 8-17 (2000).
		Kawasumi, et al., Preparation and Mechanical Properties of Polypropylene-Clay Hybrids, 30 Macromolecules 6333-6338 (1997).
		Hasegawa, et al., Preparation and Mechanical Properties of Polystyrene-Clay Hybrids, 74 Journal of Applied Polymer Science 3359-3364 (1999).
		Zhang, et al., Effect of Quarternary Ammonium-Modified Montmorillonites on Mechanical Properties of Polypropylene, 520 Mat. Res. Soc. Symp. Proc. 191-195 (1998).